**Workington Town Council**

*Trustee of the Borough of Workington*

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**Minutes of the Culture & Community Committee Meeting of Workington Town Council which took place at 7pm on Tuesday 7th November 2023, held in the Workington Town Council Community Centre, Princess Street, Workington.**

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| Cllr Ellie Wood (Chair) | Apologies | Cllr David Farrar (Vice Chair) | Present |
| Cllr Barbara Cannon | Present | Cllr Susan Martin | Present |
| Cllr Sue Fryer | Present | Cllr Tricia Poole | Present |
| Cllr Jackie Kirkbride | Apologies | Cllr Kate Schofield | Apologies |
| Cllr Nath Martin | Present | Cllr Joan Wright | Present |

In attendance: Deputy Proper Officer, Cllr Michael Heaslip and Cllr Beth Dixon.

In the absence of the Chair, the Vice Chair, Cllr David Farrar, chaired the meeting.

**C23.59. Apologies**

Apologies were received and noted from Cllr Ellie Wood, Cllr Jackie Kirkbride and Cllr Kate Schofield.

**C23.60. Declarations of Interest**

Cllr Poole advised of an interest in item 9.1c on the budget report as the Heritage Group are based at the Helena Thompson Museum for which Cllr Poole is the Manager.

Cllr Cannon declared an interest in item 9.1b as Chair of the Twinning Association and 9.1d as a Trustee of the Carnegie Theatre Trust.

**C23.61. Exclusion of Press and Public:** None

**C23.62. Public Participation:** None

Cllr Nath Martin arrived at 7.05pm.

**C23.63. Minutes of the Previous Meeting**

Committee noted that additional budget for the Science Booth Workshops was not required as the events team had come within the initial budget agreed (minute C23.46i 22nd August 2023).

The Chair asked the committee to note budget adjustments under minute C23.46iii (22nd August 2023), increasing the Christmas Festival budget by £500 and increasing the Fireworks budget by £3,800. These have been agreed by F & GP and Full Council and the adjustments would be reflected in the reports at the next committee meeting.

**Resolved:** To accept the minutes of the meeting on the 22nd August 2023 as an accurate record.

**C23.64 . Public Questions:** None

**C23.65 . Questions and Statements from members:** None

**C23.66 . Motions on Notice:** None

**C23.67. Budget**

**1a.** Committee reviewed and noted the Culture & Community budget YTD.

**1b.** Committee noted that a report from the Twinning Association on their activities and future plans and an invoice for £2,500 will be brought to the next committee.

**1c.** Cllr Poole left the room.

It was discussed that an updated invoice and supporting document from Workington Heritage Group for £5,000 support from WTC had only been received the day before the meeting so the committee did not feel it had sufficient time to review the information.

It was noted that the invoice had already been discussed at the last F & GP meeting and it was resolved that The Chair would investigate it further, so the committee did not understand why it appeared in the report.

The committee agreed to wait for the report from The Chair of F & GPs investigation to determine next steps, if any, should be taken.

Cllr Poole returned to the room.

**1d.** The committee noted that there was no report available from the Carnegie Theatre Trust and this would be brought to the next meeting.

**1e.** The committee noted the report from the last two years from the Carnegie Music Centre, for which the Council has supported with £2,500 in 2021-2022 and 2022-2023. The committee noted that the Music Centre was going from strength to strength and were very supportive of their youth development work and agreed payment for the 2023-2024 final year of the agreement.

**1f.** The committee agreed that this budget line was to be used to commission work in the community that would help meet the objectives of the committee. It was agreed that a policy should be drawn up to stipulate how officers should handle requests for commissions within this budget line.

**1g.** The committee discussed the following funding requests:

1. Carnegie Singers – committee agreed to support with £300 from the Cultural Commissions budget line.
2. Harrington Youth Club – the committee declined the request for £300 for wheelie bin collections. The committee asked Officers to contact HYC and work with them to establish how the Council could support them better rather than paying their waste bill.
3. NHS Personalised Care Team – committee asked officers to find out more information with regards to who exactly would be in receipt of the food parcels. The committee were happy for The Chair to then make a decision of support or to decline the request.
4. Workington Boxing Academy – the committee agreed to support with £300 from the Youth Development budget and asked Officers to meet with the Boxing Academy to find out if the Council could support them in any other way.
5. Beckstone Primary School – committee noted that the grant was for a school event taking place in June 2024 and requested that the school re-submit their application after 1st April 2024.

Committee noted that feedback had been received from Beckstone Primary School, Workington Sea Cadets and Harrington Community Centre for previously funded projects by the Council. Funding has been spent in accordance with the Council’s conditions of funding.

**Resolved:** To wait for the Chair of F & GPs feedback with regards to the £5,000 invoice from Workington Heritage Group.

**Resolved:** To create a policy outlining how the Cultural Commissions budget line should be handled by officers.

**Resolved:** To support Carnegie Singers with £300 from the Cultural Commissions budget line.

**Resolved:** Meet with Harrington Youth Club to establish their plans and if the Council can help with funding and support.

**Resolved:** To contact the NHS personalised care team and request further information on who will receive the food parcels.

**Resolved:** To support Workington Boxing Academy with £300 from the Youth Development budget line.

**Resolved:** Meet with Workington Boxing Academy to establish their future plans and if the Council can help with additional funding and support.

**C23.68 Events Programme 2024**

The committee discussed the proposed 2024 events programme, along with budget breakdown for each event in great detail and confirmed they were happy with the proposal which would be taken to Full Council for approval.

Outdoor Theatre matinee

The committee discussed that some schools were not able to attend due to transport issues. Officers will look into if the Council can help with this in anyway.

It was suggested that schools were informed of the matinee date and time as soon as possible so they can plan well in advance to attend.

Party in the Park

The committee asked officers to think ‘outside the box’ and suggest some new ideas for this event. The committee discussed it was a big spend, but that the event, such as the jubilee and the coronation events, were very well received within the community.

Nature Walks

It was discussed that these would take place across the town and not just in Vulcan Park. Cllr Poole advised that the plaques they have at the museum for the rubbings do crack if not on a flat surface so officers should be aware of this when purchasing them.

Festival of Running

It was discussed that this event needs developed and to gain more interest and attendance. Officers would work with Cumberland Athletics Club on this and increase the target marketing for the event.

Science Booth Workshops

The committee discussed how popular these were, but there were a lot of no shows at the workshops. The committee would like officers to look into charging a deposit payable on booking and if they attend the workshop they will be refunded the deposit.

**Resolved:** To take the proposed 2024 budget and events programme to Full Council.

**Resolved:** To give schools prior warning (before FC in January 2024) of the date and time of the matinee performance for the outdoor theatre event.

**Resolved:** To think of new ideas for the Party in the Park event.

**Resolved:** To work with CAC on the marketing for Festival of Running.

**Resolved:** Investigate charging a refundable deposit for the Science Booth Workshops.

**Meeting closed at 20:17 hours.**